

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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USNATO BRUSSELS 1928

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ROLLS ON

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLADS

1. SUMMARY: MAJOR PARTY LEADERS MADE SEPARATE TV ADDRESSES DURING WEEK AND HAVE SCHEDULED RALLIES IN PROVINCES OVER WEEKEND. CU/NF LEADER G. MAVROS IS SHARPENING RHETORIC AGAINST POLITICAL ADVERSARIES, ANDREAS PAPANDREOU AND PREMIER CARAMANLIS, WHILE LATTER CONTINUES TO THUMP NEW DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN THEME THAT ONLY CARAMANLIS CAN PROVIDE EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP TO GUIDE NATION BACK TO POLITICAL NORMALITY. FINAL SLATES OF CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED WITH LAST MINUTE REVISIONS BY EDE AND PASOK WHERE MINOR INFIGHTING TRANSPIRED. ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO AVOID INVOLVEMENT IN

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POLITICAL ACTIVITIES DURING CAMPAIGN PERIOD, AND MINISTER

OF INTERIOR COUNSELED PREFECTS TO EXERCISE EXTREME PRUDENCE
TO ENSURE FAIR AND HONEST ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING HIS TELEVISION SPEECH OCTOBER 30 WHICH NOT
SURPRISINGLY AVOIDED VENTURING MUCH BEYOND PATRIOTIC
PLATITUDES EXCEPT TO DECLARE CU/NF OPPOSITION TO MONARCHY,
GEORGE MAVROS INAUGURATED DOWNTOWN
CENTER UNION/NEW FORCES HEADQUARTERS OCTOBER 31 WITH
PUBLIC ADDRESS DEPRECATING OBLIQUELY HIS TWO MAJOR RIVALS
CARAMANLIS AND PAPANDREOU. WITH INDIRECT REFERENCE TO
PAPANDREOU CU LEADER CHARGED THAT IRRESPONSIBLE DEMAGOGUES
AND THOSE DISLOYAL TO PARTY LINES CONSTITUTE REAL
THREAT TO DEMOCRATIC STABILITY. MAVROS CASTIGATED
PROMOTERS OF "CARAMANLIS OR TANKS" SLOGAN AS NEW DEMOCRACY
PEOPLE RESORTING TO TRICKS. MAVROS ADDED FOREIGN POLICY
FOOTNOTE THAT CU/NF ADVOCATED MORE ACTIVE GREEK PARTICIPATION
IN GREATER EUROPE. HIS ADDRESS WAS LISTENED TO UNDER
UNFAVORABLE WEATHER AND PA CONDITIONS BY ABOUT 5,000 SUPPORTERS
WHOSE MODERATE RESPONSIVENESS DID NOT HOLD BACK ENTHUSIASTS
FROM PUSHING IN LARGE PLATE GLASS WINDOW ON GROUND FLOOR
OF HEADQUARTERS. RALLY'S MOST FREQUENTLY HEARD SLOGAN
WAS "ONLY THROUGH DEMOCRACY SHALL WE BE LED TO SOCIALISM."

3. CARAMANLIS IN FIRST SPEECH ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED
POLITICAL AFFAIRS RADIO/TV SPOT OCTOBER 31 SAID HE
RETURNED TO GREECE IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH TRUE AND
PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRACY. ADHERING TO ESTABLISHED ND
CAMPAIGN LINE, PM CARAMANLIS EMPHASIZED THAT HE ALONE
POSSESSES LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND IS ONLY CANDIDATE
WHO DOES NOT SEEK POWER FOR SELFISH MOTIVES. HE
APPLAUDED HIS OWN RECORD AS PM FROM 1955-63 AND FOR
LAST NINETY DAYS AND EXPLAINED THAT HE GUIDED
FORMATION OF NEW PARTY TO SERVE AS FOUNDATION OF
DEMOCRACY IN GREECE. PM CONCLUDED THAT "NEW DEMOCRACY'S
SOLE CRITERION IN CONFRONTING NATION'S PROBLEMS IS
INTEREST OF COUNTRY AND PUBLIC." PASOK'S ANDREAS
PAPANDREOU COMPLETED TOUR OF EPIRUS WITH RALLY IN
IOANNINA OCTOBER 31 WHERE HE CONCENTRATED ON QUESTIONS OF
EDUCATION AND YOUTH. PAPANDREOU ADDRESSED FOREIGN PRESS
ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON NOVEMBER 1. TOMORROW HE IS
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SCHEDULED TO SPEAK TO MASS RALLY IN THESSALONIKI AND
THEN RETURN TO ATHENS NOVEMBER 3 TO ATTEND MEMORIAL
SERVICE FOR HIS FATHER GEORGE PAPANDREOU. (DEPARTMENT
WILL RECALL LAST YEAR'S MEMORIAL SERVICE PRECIPITATED
POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION INVOLVING CLASH WITH POLICE
FOLLOWED BY POLYTECHNION EVENTS.) CARAMANLIS PLANS TO
SPEAK IN LARISA NOVEMBER 3; UNITED LEFT LEADERS INCLUDING
MIKIS THEODORAKIS WILL FOCUS THIS WEEKEND ON CRETE AND

MAVORS IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK IN LARISA NOVEMBER 2, VOLOS
AND THESSALONIKI NOVEMBER 3.

4. MEANWHILE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC UNION, EDE'S GAROUFALIAS
FILED LAW SUITS AGAINST MINISTER TO PM VLACHOS, PRESS
SPOKESMAN LINARDATOS AND EIRT DIRECTOR HORN FOR NOT
PRESENTING HIS PARTY'S ACTIVITIES OVER NATIONAL RADIO/TV.
GAROUFLIAS ASSERTED EDE HAS CANDIDATES IN 54 OF
NATION'S 56 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND IS ENTITLED TO SAME
NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE AS OTHER MAJOR PARTIES. (MAJOR FOUR
PLUS MINOR AND INDEPENDENT PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN
ELECTIONS NOW TOTAL 47.) EDE HEADQUARTERS WHICH IS NOT
LACKING IN SOBRIETY OF BLACK-SUITED SHORT-HAIRED
"GREETERS" TOLD FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT YESTERDAY THAT
EDE SLATES WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC SINCE REVISIONS
STILL BEING MADE. PRESS TODAY PUBLISHED FINAL EDE
SLATES WITH 194 CANDIDATES. EDE IS NOT ALONE IN ITS
DIFFICULTIES IN PUTTING SLATES IN FINAL FORM; PASOK HAS
RECENTLY SUFFERED TWO RESIGNATIONS, ONE OF WHOM RESIGNED
TO PROTEST COLLEAGUE CANDIDATE'S ALLEGED COLLABORATION
WITH NAZIS, AND DROPPED THIRD CANDIDATE FOR HIS ASSOCIATION
WITH JUNTA.

5. NEWS MEDIA REPORTED THAT ARMED FORCES OFFICERS HAVE
ORDERS TO ABSTAIN FROM INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES
DURING PERIOD PRECEDING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS NOV. 17.
PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT INTERIOR MINISTER SEPPOS DURING
RECENT VISIT TO THESSALONIKI COUNSELED PREFECTS TO ENSURE
IRREPROACHABLE PROCEEDINGS ON ELECTION DAY.
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